

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

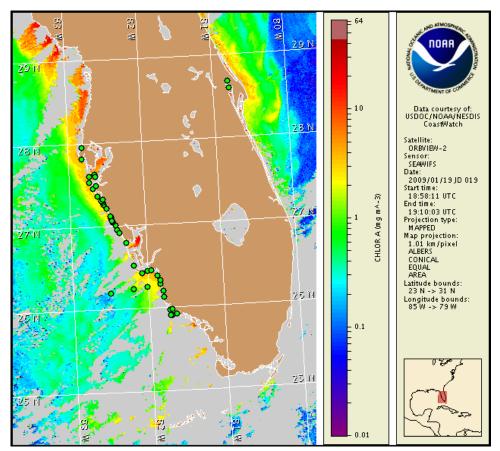
Region: Southwest Florida

21 January 2009 NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: January 15, 2009



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from January 12 to 20 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

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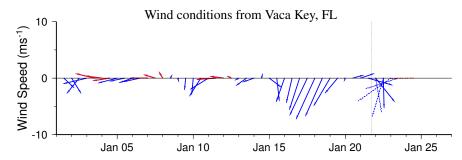
Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified on the gulf side of the lower Florida Keys in Monroe County. Patchy, low impacts are possible Thursday through Sunday, with patchy moderate impacts possible today. No additional impacts are expected elsewhere in southwest Florida today through Sunday, January 25.

Analysis

A harmful algal bloom has been identified offshore on the gulf side of the lower Florida Keys (1/6, 1/9; FWRI, MML; Present to Low b). A background concentration of *Karenia brevis* was also detected in Gulf County (1/13, FWRI). Recent satellite imagery is obscured by clouds and limits analysis. Where visible, chlorophyll appears to be elevated ($^{\sim} 4 \mu g/L$) up to 11 miles northwest of the lower Keys. Southward transportation is likely today through Sunday due to northerly winds. Continued sampling is recommended.

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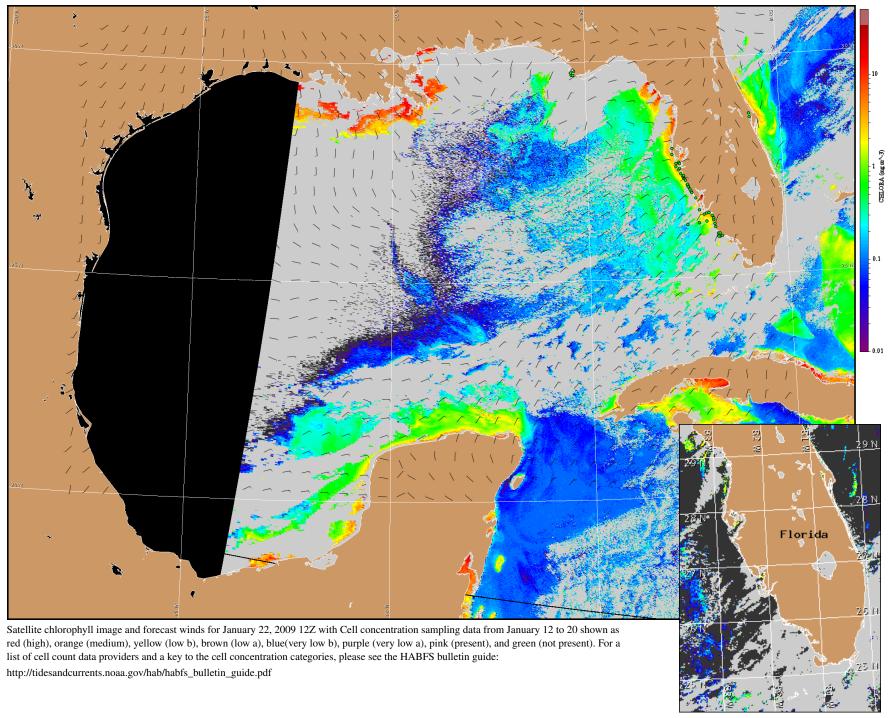


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

Wind Analysis

Florida Keys: North to northeast winds today through Thursday (10-20 kn; 5-10 m/s). Northeast to east winds Friday through Sunday (10-15 kn; 5-8 m/s).

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA CoastWatch bulletin archive: http://coastwatch.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins_ns.htm



Verifi ed and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).